

Please substitute the last paragraph on page 6 (line 26), which continues to page 7 (line 4), with the following paragraph:

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In certain other preferred embodiments, where the cationic lipid compound has a structure according to formula (I) described below, the linker has DNA and/or cell receptor binding affinity. Such linkers may enhance the effectiveness of the lipid in interacting with nucleotides and/or cell membranes. Examples of moieties having such binding affinity include, for example, amino acids, peptides, saccharides, polypeptides, polysaccharides, proteins, polyamines, peptidomimetic moieties and histories. Specific examples of polyamines having such binding affinity include spermine, spermidine, and derivatives thereof. In particularly preferred embodiments incorporating a peptide moiety, the cationic lipid is HB-DMRIE-Ox-Trp- γ -DMRIE or PEG34-bis-But-DMRIE-propylamide, the chemical structures of which are shown in Figure 1B. The chemical name of HB-DMRIE-Ox-Trp- γ -DMRIE is (\pm)-N-[4-(N'-(3'-tryptophanylaminopropyl))-N',N'-dimethyl-2',3'-bis(tetradecyloxy)-1'-propanaminiumyl]-N,N-dimethyl-2,3-bis(tetradecyloxy)-1-propanaminium bromide. The molecular formula of HB-DMRIE-Ox-Trp- γ -DMRIE is $C_{84}H_{161}Br_2N_5O_6$. The chemical name of PEG34-bis-But-DMRIE-propylamide is poly(ethylene glycol)-34 bis-[(\pm)-N-(N'-propylbutyramido)-N,N-dimethyl-2,3-bis(tetradecyloxy)-1-propanaminium bromide].

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Please substitute the second full paragraph on page 7 (lines 6-13) with the following paragraph:

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In yet other preferred embodiments, where the cationic lipid compound has a structure according to formula (II), the linker bridging the quaternary ammonium headgroups includes a bis-ureyl linkage. In certain embodiments, the cationic lipid compound is a dimer, wherein the hydrophobic lipid tails, represented by groups R_1 to R_4 , are identical. In particularly preferred embodiments, the cationic lipid compound is SBDU-DMRIE, SBGU-DMRIE or SHGU-DMRIE, the chemical structures of which are provided in Figure 1A. Another common name of SBDU-DMRIE is butane bis-DU-DMRIE. The chemical name of SBDU-DMRIE is 1,4-bis-(N'-butyl-(4-(N,N-dimethyl-2,3-bis(tetradecyloxy)-1-propanaminium)))-ureyl-butane. The molecular formula is $C_{80}H_{166}O_6N_6$. Another common name of SHGU-DMRIE is hexane bis-1,6-GU-DMRIE. The chemical name of SHGU-DMRIE is 1,4-bis-(N'-propyl-(4-(N,N-dimethyl-2,3-bis(tetradecyloxy)-1-propanaminium)))-ureyl-hexane. The molecular formula is $C_{80}H_{166}O_6N_6$. Another common name of SBGU-DMRIE is butane bis-GU-DMRIE. The chemical name of SBGU-DMRIE is 1,4-bis-(N'-propyl-(4-(N,N-dimethyl-2,3-bis(tetradecyloxy)-1-propanaminium)))-ureyl-butane. The molecular formula is $C_{80}H_{166}O_6N_6$. These compositions may also optionally include one or more co-lipids.

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